REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 11-20 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 1 and 20 are independent claims. Claim 1 has been canceled, rendering the rejection of claim 1 moot.

Therefore, claims 2-8 and 11-20 are all of the pending claims. Claim 20 is the only independent claim.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claim 20 is allowed.

Applicants have rewritten claims 2-6, 11, and 13-15 so that they now depend from claim 20. Dependent claims 3 and 4 have been amended slightly so that their terms are consistent with those used in claim 20.

As such, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejections of dependent claims 2-8 and 11-19 at least because of their dependency from allowed claim 20.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and immediate allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Registration No. 46,027

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC

Telephone: (202) 293-7060 Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

233/3
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date: August 29, 2003